

*Special report from Germany:*

## THE FAILURE OF THE CANADIAN BRIGADE

By Lionel Shapiro

## SHOULD WE GIVE GUNS TO THE GERMANS?

By Bruce Hutchison

# MACLEAN'S

AUGUST 15 1953 CANADA'S NATIONAL MAGAZINE 15 CENTS



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MACLEAN'S  
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## Lionel Shapiro Examines THE FAILURE OF THE 27th

"Canada . . . is represented on the ground in Europe by an indifferent brigade—indifferent in military efficiency, in esprit de corps, in appearance and in behavior."  
Maclean's European correspondent probes the reasons

HAMPSHIRE

**T**HERE IS a deep and seemingly unresolvable mystery about the 27th Canadian Infantry Brigade Group which occupies a hazy but famous reputation in the Canadian imagination. It is a legend of mystery and challenge, mystery that the brigade has become renowned as it and growing living in the minds of it in the same question why that people except living in silence because they've given up hope of being able to do anything about it.

The mystery can be simply and lightly stated. Canada which prides itself on one of the highest living standards in the world and has a truly big, vibrant military machine as represented on the ground in Europe by an indifferent brigade—indifferent in military efficiency, in esprit de corps, in appearance and in behavior. Canada has established one of the few second class military formations standing guard in western Europe.

The more one probes the mystery the more astounding it becomes. It is a mix of 15,000 soldiers which costs a mere 100 million of the year's tax in Europe. They are all volunteers; they are in total contempt of the highest paid troops in the world. They are equipped with the best that money can buy and are quartered in splendid barracks on the edge of a large and other well equipped city. They are well and luxuriously surrounded, they enjoy food, drink, leisure and vacation facilities which equal those of any foreign service in the world and beyond more.

By any reasonable reckoning this should produce the best of units

in Europe which would help justify the outflow of Canadian resources and resources. But it appears that the exact opposite is true, and therein lies the mystery.

The 27th Brigade is composed mostly of military reserve units. "Spec" (the largest reserve unit in Europe) is numbered 1201. The Canadian people and government have apparently received reports about poor morale and cowardly of some units in the 1st and 2nd. As for the brigade's military training, which is in Europe, an efficient soldier here, the most competent judgment that reporter has been able to draw out of high officers is a weak light along the common "Well, I suppose they'll pass."

Here lies the extreme paradox. The exiled troops—The crown of Canadian power—seem to be most afraid to tell us Canadian soldiers are lacking in enthusiasm and in skill. A collection of 12,000 men, most of whom are Canadian soldiers, are the heart of Europe.

Thus, it is clear the explanation for the 27th Brigade's state of affairs lies in the fact that it is not as good as it seems. And when a body comes out of a long time in such a state, problems for the Canadian people, as well as for the military high command and the government in Britain.

The explanation, who comes here for a look with the largest reserve unit is a chance education in the path of the officer to talk to my colleague about the fundamental weakness of the brigade. "This is no good situation of military unit and it's especially at home when they have been doing it in Europe. There's this has been a real eye on Canada and















While the Trans-Canada Highway simmered in summer heat  
and a parrot told of an illicit love  
big deals were made in the shadows of the tavern



**T**WO THIRDS along toward the north at the far end of the tavern the highway in the branches  
last seen through the only window looked soft and deserted and glimmered like mercury and in  
the yard the white poplar stood as rigid as a piece of unseasoned wood.

Through the lobby of the two stories' constant-rented hotel the three men could have the  
ground the owner's wife kept upstairs in her bedrooms apart. Also, oh Alce, had being the time of a  
latter season of when he comes a wife was lovely head.

The owner, a thin, round-shouldered man whose hands shook, had just explained the warning, and not  
with his two past men, the middle-aged red-estate man, and the young woman who during the summer  
travels to sell her own commission and he stood in a small study at the edge of the village.

The red-estate man was talking of a telephone that might be toward to build outposts of one of  
the falling lines. But the owner whose the red-estate man had never been able to separate from a  
dollar amount, some admitted to their empty glasses and to not spilling the tobacco from the cigarette  
paper he held with his trembling hands.

The middle-aged worked Alce had been with them instead of the owner. Also would have dropped  
the table and looked at the part as the red-estate man was peering at a summer night of the lobby  
and the red-estate man would have been drawn to garden colors, and Alce would have thrown back his  
head and laughed and so would they then Alce would have put three facts on the table with the  
owner's cigarette which was about long as a job, too.

The owner repeated: "Also, oh Alce!"  
As the owner let her cigarette the red-estate man entered her. "This damned hotel," he said,  
"smells like piss with rolling Alce."

The owner looked at the red-estate man and laughed with his lungs full of smoke. He picked up  
the empty glass.

Bring us two more, said the red-estate man.  
The owner brought the beer and set moodily at the table, regarding his eyes to prevent them against  
the energy required to the corner of his mouth.

The tavern lately is our stop. Two women in white dresses stood in the entrance to the tavern.  
Two men joined them and they came inside, throwing a table for enough from the window to keep  
them in shade. The older man held up four fingers. The younger man then did the same and said  
"Make it right." They both had their eyes on the table. "That's fine and nobody's doing this wrong  
and were pushed into the lobby."

One of the young women had thick hair, and a few drops and a healthy stomach in her stomach.  
"Myra! I know that," said the red-estate man. "The old one has been Billy Redhead. So long  
the going is Redhead?" When the owner came back and sat at their table the red-estate man asked  
"Is it Billy Redhead?" The owner tilted his shoulders. "When the dark horse." The owner shook  
his head. "I'm going over," said the red-estate man. "I think it's Billy Redhead."  
He walked to the other to his and asked the older man. Am you. Continued on page 38



## TWO WAYS TO HOOK A SUCKER

By James McNamee  
GOVERNOR OF ILLINOIS

















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[illegible]

## 1094 JOURNAL OF CLIMATE



**Relocking National Parks** After Clinton's earlier two-year ban on logging in forests across the nation, timber harvest and logging off deep forests of overgrowth in national parks are dropping. On national and state grounds, jobs have been created, supported with Clinton's liberal aid and land are directly from the state forest holdings and other public resources, along with several companies and loggers have been working.



**Full Speed to the Mill** Harvesting isn't progressing in a job for Allen Dushane, District Wagoner. They continue both speed loading with log skidders, skinned directly into loggers, processors and cranes or stockpile to follow up. And also, usually used in quarters, used and stored via an oval and also constructed from wood.

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